



APPLICATIONS FOR FIREWORKS/PYROTECHNICS PERMITS ON TOTAL FIRE BAN DAYS

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

In accordance with Section 40 (5) (a) of the *Country Fire Authority Act 1958* (CFA ACT), the Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board is authorised to issue permits for fireworks/pyrotechnics on total fire ban days.

Applications for permits will be considered on a case by case basis:

1. All applications must provide event details as listed in attached "Guidelines for Applicants".
2. Only events of significance will receive consideration for a permit for exemption from the total fire ban, i.e. Australia Day, New Year's Eve.
3. Generally there are only two scenarios under which permit applications will be considered:
 - (a) The display is over a water location and wind direction will not allow embers to fall on land; or
 - (b) The Bureau of Meteorology forecast to the CFA has not proved to be correct and the weather conditions are benign, i.e. lower temperature and wind speed than predicted.
4. Permits will only be considered on a single day basis, i.e. blanket permits or permits written in advance of an event will not be issued nor considered.
5. If a decision is made to approve a permit application, the site will be inspected by the relevant Commander prior to the event proceeding. The local Fire Station will also inspect the site prior to the event and may be designated to be in attendance throughout the event and for enough time afterwards to ensure the safety of surrounding areas.



METROPOLITAN FIRE BRIGADE

Central Zone Command

Level 1, 456 Albert Street, East Melbourne 3002 Telephone (61-3) 9665 4501 Facsimile (61-3) 9665 4510 www.mfb.org.au

ABN 28 598 558 561



6. The conditions and limitations applicable to a Total Fire Ban permit being issued will include a weather dependant clause. It is the policy of the MFESB to review circumstances surrounding a Total Fire Ban Permit when wind speeds are reported in excess on 10 kph. (Beaufort Scale 2)
7. No permit approval will be granted unless the responsible MFESB officer is confident that it is safe to discharge fireworks.
8. If the request is refused, the applicant has recourse to the Minister Police and Emergency Services under S40(8) of the CFA Act.

Total Fire Ban Permits are issued by Zone Community Safety Commanders, telephone 9662 2311, or, after hours, Duty Commander Central Zone, telephone 9665 4235.

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